

Alexandria Traffic and Parking Board
City of Alexandria
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314



February 1, 2026

Attn: Chair and Members of the Traffic and Parking Board

Subject: Support for Braddock Road Trail Access and Corridor Improvements that Prioritize Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety over Vehicle Speed and On-Street Parking

Braddock Road is a critical link in Alexandria's transportation network, yet it remains a hazardous corridor for people walking and biking. The narrow sidewalks, lack of protected bike lanes, and the challenging pedestrian crossings create daily risks for vulnerable road users and limit access to transit and trails. Recognizing these dangers, the City designated the section between Mount Vernon Avenue and North West Street as a high-priority location for pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, highlighting the urgent need for immediate action, and we are glad to be providing input on what that action should look like.

In his March 2025 analysis, AFSS member Ian Smith documented multiple safety deficiencies along Braddock Road, including the absence of protected bike lanes, inadequate pedestrian crossings, and high-conflict intersections near the Metro station. His study found that these gaps leave cyclists and pedestrians exposed to vehicle traffic and significantly reduce connectivity to Alexandria's broader bike network. Addressing these issues through design changes is critical to improving safety and accessibility for all road users.

Staff have put forward design options for this corridor between Russell Road and West Street, and Alexandria Families for Safe Streets supports a final design that maximizes protection of bicyclists and pedestrians using this corridor. These improvements advance Alexandria's Mobility Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan by creating a safer, more equitable transportation system. They will connect major trails and the Braddock Metro Station, reduce car dependency by connecting to a wider bicycle network, and make neighborhood resources more accessible for residents of all ages and abilities.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Alexandria Families for Safe Streets (AFSS), we strongly urge the Traffic and Parking Board to advance the strongest possible package of improvements without delay. This work is essential to building a connected, safe, and sustainable transportation network for our city.

Respectfully,

Katia Nilender, Board Member – On behalf of the Board of Directors of AFSS

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